

Remarks

Claims 17 - 39 are pending. Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested. Claims 38 and 39 are allowed. Claim 19 has been objected to only.

Claims 17 - 18, 20, and 22 - 37 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over Feher, J. ORGANOMETALLIC CHEM, 379, pp. 33 - 40 (1989) ("*Feher*"). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection. As can be clearly seen from the specification and examples, all the reactive functional groups are linked directly to the Si-bound phenyl groups, and not through non-functional linking groups such as a methylene group. The latter compounds do not bear aryl-bound functional groups. Rather, the functional groups are aliphatically bound.


Applicants have amended claim 17, on which claims 18 - 37 are dependent, to make clear what was intended by the claim language: that the reactive functionalities are aryl-bonded, i.e. bonded directly to the phenyl ring, as shown throughout the specification and in all of the examples. These directly bonded functional groups can be further reacted to form other functional groups, but in no case can any compounds similar to *Feher*, with an intermediate methylene or alkylene group attached to the phenyl ring, be formed. Withdrawal of the rejection of the claims over *Feher* is respectfully solicited.

It should be noted that even disregarding *Feher's* use of a methylene linking group, the subject matter of claims 21, 22, and 26 - 37 is not even remotely suggested by *Feher*.

Applicants submit that the claims are now in condition for Allowance, and respectfully request a Notice to that effect. If the Examiner believes that further discussion will advance the prosecution of the Application, they are highly encouraged to telephone Applicants' attorney at the number given below.

Respectfully submitted,

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